

Appl. No. 10/638,156
Amendment dated October 28, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 18, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) A clothes drying apparatus for supporting wet clothing while the clothing is drying, the clothes drying apparatus comprising:

a support assembly being adapted for being selectively positioned on a support surface; and

a plurality of support frame assemblies being pivotally coupled to said support assembly such that each of said support frame assemblies selectively radiates from said support assembly, each of said support frame assemblies being adapted for receiving and supporting at least one article of clothing to allow the clothing to air dry;

wherein adjacent support frame assemblies of the plurality of support frame assemblies are spaced from each other to form radially-extending spaces between the adjacent support frame assemblies.

2. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

said support assembly comprising a stanchion member, said stanchion member being adapted for being positioned on the support surface, each of said support frame assemblies being pivotally coupled to said stanchion member such that each of said support frame assemblies is adapted for supporting the clothing when said support frame assemblies are pivoted to radially extend from said stanchion member.

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3. (Currently Amended) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

said support assembly comprising a plurality of base members, each of said base members being pivotally coupled to said stanchion member, each of said base members is adapted for being positioned between said stanchion member and the support surface such that said base members are for stabilizing the stanchion member on the support surface when said support frame assemblies are being used, each of said base members pivot between a deployed position and a stored position, said stored position of each of said base members being defined by each of said base members being positioned substantially parallel to said stanchion member, said deployed position of each of said base members being defined by each of said base members extending at an angle between said stanchion member and the support surface to form a tripod configuration to provide maximum stability for said stanchion member.

4. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

said support assembly comprising a hook member, said hook member being coupled to said stanchion member such that said hook member is adapted for being positioned opposite the support surface when said stanchion member is positioned on the support surface, said hook member being adapted for engaging a closet rod to facilitate storage of said support assembly and said support frame assemblies when said support assembly and said support frame assemblies are not in use.

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5. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising pair of frame members, each of said frame members is pivotally coupled to said support assembly such that each of said frame members is pivotal between a collapsed position and an extended position, said collapsed position of each of said frame members being defined by the associated one of said frame members being positioned substantially parallel to said support assembly, said extended position of each of said frame members being defined by the associated one of said frame members radially extending from said support assembly, said frame members of each of said support frame assemblies being adapted for supporting the weight of the clothing on the associated one of said support frame assemblies.

6. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising a support member, said support member being coupled to said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said support member extends between said frame members, said support member being stretched between said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said support member is adapted for supporting clothing in a horizontal state to dry when said frame members are in said extended position.

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7. (Currently Amended) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

 said support member comprising a mesh material stretched between said frame members, said mesh material being adapted for permitting air to pass through said mesh material such that said mesh material is for permitting air to contact the clothing supported by said support member to facilitate air drying of the clothing.

8. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

 each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one line member, said line member being coupled to at least one of said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, said line member being adapted for receiving the clothing to allow the clothing to be suspended from the associated one of said support frame assemblies to allow the clothing to dry.

9. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 8, further comprising:

 at least one of said support frame assemblies comprising a plurality of clip members, each of said clip members being coupled to said line member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, each of said clip members selectively engaging the clothing to facilitate suspending the clothing from said line member.

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10. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one band member, said band member being coupled to said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said band member extends between said frame members, said band member being adapted for selectively securing the clothing to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies to inhibit the clothing from blowing away.

11. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 6, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one securing member, said securing member being selectively coupled to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, said securing member being adapted for selectively securing the clothing to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies to inhibit the clothing from blowing away.

12. (Currently Amended) A clothes drying apparatus for supporting wet clothing while the clothing is drying, the clothes drying apparatus comprising:

a support assembly being adapted for being selectively positioned on a support surface;

a plurality of support frame assemblies being pivotally coupled to said support assembly such that each of said support frame assemblies selectively radiates from said support assembly, each of said support frame assemblies being adapted for receiving and supporting at least one article of clothing to allow the clothing to air dry;

adjacent ones of said support frame assemblies of the plurality of support frame assemblies being spaced from each other to form radially-

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extending spaces between each pair of of said adjacent support frame assemblies.

said support assembly comprising a stanchion member, said stanchion member being adapted for being positioned on the support surface, each of said support frame assemblies being pivotally coupled to said stanchion member such that each of said support frame assemblies is adapted for supporting the clothing when said support frame assemblies are pivoted to radially extend from said stanchion member;

said support assembly comprising a plurality of base members, each of said base members being pivotally coupled to said stanchion member, each of said base members is adapted for being positioned between said stanchion member and the support surface such that said base members are for stabilizing the stanchion member on the support surface when said support frame assemblies are being used, each of said base members pivot between a deployed position and a stored position, said stored position of each of said base members being defined by each of said base members being positioned substantially parallel to said stanchion member, said deployed position of each of said base members being defined by each of said base members extending at an angle between said stanchion member and the support surface to provide maximum stability for said stanchion member;

said support assembly comprising a hook member, said hook member being coupled to said stanchion member such that said hook member is adapted for being positioned opposite the support surface when said stanchion member is positioned on the support surface, said hook member being adapted for engaging a closet rod to facilitate storage of said support assembly and said support frame assemblies when said support assembly and said support frame assemblies are not in use;

each of said support frame assemblies comprising pair of frame members, each of said frame members is pivotally coupled to said support assembly such that each of said frame members is pivotal between a collapsed position and an extended position, said collapsed position of each

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of said frame members being defined by the associated one of said frame members being positioned substantially parallel to said support assembly, said extended position of each of said frame members being defined by the associated one of said frame members radially extending from said support assembly, said frame members of each of said support frame assemblies being adapted for supporting the weight of the clothing on the associated one of said support frame assemblies;

each of said support frame assemblies comprising a support member, said support member being coupled to said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said support member extends between said frame members, said support member being stretched between said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said support member is adapted for supporting clothing in a horizontal state to dry when said frame members are in said extended position;

said support member comprising a mesh material, said mesh material being adapted for permitting air to pass through said mesh material such that said mesh material is for permitting air to contact the clothing supported by said support member to facilitate air drying of the clothing;

~~each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one line member, said line member being coupled to at least one of said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, said line member being adapted for receiving the clothing to allow the clothing to be suspended from the associated one of said support frame assemblies to allow the clothing to dry; and~~

each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one line member positioned in said radially-extending spaces between the adjacent support frame assemblies, said at least one line member being coupled to one of said frame members of said support frame assembly and extending from said frame member into said radially-extending space:

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a pair of said at least one line members being positioned in each of said radially-extending space, each line member of said pair of line members being associated with one of said adjacent support frame assemblies:

at least one of said support frame assemblies comprising a plurality of clip members, each of said clip members being coupled to said line member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, each of said clip members selectively engaging the clothing to facilitate suspending the clothing from said line member.

13. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 12, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one band member, said band member being coupled to said frame members of the associated one of said support frame assemblies such that said band member extends between said frame members, said band member being adapted for selectively securing the clothing to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies to inhibit the clothing from blowing away.

14. (Original) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 12, further comprising:

each of said support frame assemblies comprising at least one securing member, said securing member being selectively coupled to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies, said securing member being adapted for selectively securing the clothing to said support member of the associated one of said support frame assemblies to inhibit the clothing from blowing away.

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15. (New) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of said support frame assemblies comprises at least one line member positioned in said radially-extending spaces between the adjacent support frame assemblies.

16. (New) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein at least one of said support frame assemblies comprises a frame member, and said at least line member is coupled to said frame member and extends from said frame member into said radially-extending space such that a medial section of said line member is spaced from said frame member.

17. (New) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein a pair of said at least one line members is positioned in each of said radially-extending space, each line member of said pair of line members being associated with one of said adjacent support frame assemblies.

18. (New) The clothes drying apparatus as set forth in claim 1 wherein each of said support frame assemblies has a substantially triangular perimeter, and each of said radially-extending spaces between said adjacent support frame assemblies is substantially triangular.